

and healthy lifestyle. Yet, the federal government continues to impose taxes on Social Security benefits. Meanwhile, Congress continually raids the Social Security trust fund to finance unconstitutional programs! It is long past time for Congress to choose between helping seniors afford medicine or using the Social Security trust fund as a slush fund for big government and pork-barrel spending.

Mr. Speaker, I do wish to clarify that this tax credit is intended to supplement the efforts to reform and strengthen the Medicare system to ensure seniors have the ability to use Medicare funds to purchase prescription drugs. I am a strong supporter of strengthening the Medicare system to allow for more choice and consumer control, including structural reforms that will allow seniors to use Medicare funds to cover the costs of prescription drugs.

In addition to making prescription medications more affordable for seniors, my bill lowers the price for prescription medicines by reducing barriers to the importation of FDA-approved pharmaceuticals. Under my bill, anyone wishing to import a drug simply submits an application to the FDA, which then must approve the drug unless the FDA finds the drug is either not approved for use in the US or is adulterated or misbranded. This process will make safe and affordable imported medicines affordable to millions of Americans. Mr. Speaker, letting the free market work is the best means of lowering the cost of prescription drugs.

I need not remind my colleagues that many senior citizens and other Americans impacted by the high costs of prescription medicine have demanded Congress reduce the barriers which prevent American consumers from purchasing imported pharmaceuticals. Just a few weeks ago, Congress responded to these demands by overwhelmingly passing legislation liberalizing the rules governing the importation of pharmaceuticals. While this provision took a good first step toward allowing free trade in pharmaceuticals, and I hope it remains in the final bill, the American people will not be satisfied until all unnecessary regulations on importing pharmaceuticals are removed.

The Prescription Drug Affordability Act also protects consumers' access to affordable prescription drugs by forbidding the federal government from regulating any Internet sales of FDA-approved pharmaceuticals by state-licensed pharmacists. As I am sure my colleagues are aware, the Internet makes pharmaceuticals and other products more affordable and accessible for millions of Americans. One gentleman in my district has used the Internet to lower his prescription drugs costs from \$700 to \$100 a month!

However, the federal government has threatened to destroy this option by imposing unnecessary and unconstitutional regulations on web sites which sell pharmaceuticals. Any federal regulations would inevitably drive up prices of pharmaceuticals, thus depriving many consumers of access to affordable prescription medications.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to make pharmaceuticals more affordable and accessible by lowering taxes on senior citizens, removing barriers to the importation of pharmaceuticals and protecting legitimate Internet pharmacies from needless regu-

lation by cosponsoring the Prescription Drug Affordability Act.

AMERICAN LEGACY PRESERVATION ACT

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, today I submit for introduction a bill to preserve and maintain the final resting places of our nation's greatest leaders. Since the Constitution was ratified, the United States has had only 43 Presidents. Some, like Washington and Lincoln and Reagan, have been great men who changed the nation. Others, like Buchanan, were capable and gifted, but have not been judged well by history.

But while James Buchanan may not be on the list of great American Presidents, he was a good man who did a lot for Lancaster County, Pennsylvania and for America. And as a Member of Congress, he did more than any of his peers to protect the Constitution and the principle of judicial review.

While he may not have had the foresight that Lincoln had when it came to slavery, it is a little-known fact that Buchanan bought slaves in Washington, DC, in order to free them here in Pennsylvania.

But much like Abraham Lincoln, he was a self-made man who was born in a log cabin. As a young man, he served in the War of 1812. He was Lancaster's Congressman from 1821 to 1831. He served as Ambassador to Russia and Great Britain. He was a U.S. Senator, and then, finally, he became President.

He served during the most tumultuous time in our history. And while he was not as good a leader as his successor, he did succeed in holding the union together.

He died in 1868 and was buried in my district, the 16th district of Pennsylvania. It is, for a President, a simple grave. The office he held was an important one in his time. Today, it is the most powerful office in the world.

Every one of our Presidents deserves the honor of a well-maintained grave.

Many of us remember several years ago when President Grant's tomb in New York fell into disrepair. Its roof leaked, its walls were covered with graffiti, and it was a hangout for heroin addicts.

Buchanan's grave is very nice by comparison. But keeping it nice has been very difficult. The cemetery association is not a wealthy one, and it is mainly through the efforts of volunteers that it has been maintained at all. When Grant's Tomb fell into disrepair, the National Park Service stepped up to the plate and fixed it. Today it's a tourist attraction.

I'm introducing today the American Legacy Preservation Act, empowering the National Park Service to assist in the upkeep of Presidential gravesites.

Whether it be the grave of Lincoln or Buchanan, Washington or Grant, preserving the final resting places of our Presidents is clearly in the nation's interest. The gravesites have exceptional value in illustrating and interpreting the heritage of the U.S. and helping

Americans to value our rich and complex national story. Every American deserves to know that the graves of our past Presidents will be treated with the same dignity as the office they once held.

INTRODUCTION OF MUSIC ONLINE COMPETITION ACT

HON. RICK BOUCHER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. BOUCHER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to join with my colleague from Utah, Mr. CANNON, in the introduction of much-needed legislation to facilitate the rapid introduction of services which will meet the public demand for efficient delivery of music over the Internet in a manner which also assures that copyright owners receive compensation for the use of their works.

I am among those who believe that most people are willing to pay a reasonable fee to be able to obtain musical selections over the Internet, and I applaud the planned introduction by the major record labels of websites that will make their music inventories available for streaming and downloading.

There are a number of obstacles to the effective introduction of online music services in current copyright law. A recent hearing in the Judiciary Committee highlighted several of the problems in current copyright law which are impeding the deployment of innovative, legitimate Internet music services to an eager listening public. Some of these problems are practical, such as trying to locate and notify all of the publishers of a particular musical composition. Other obstacles are technical, such as needing to produce multiple copies of a song in different transmission speeds and different media formats. Current copyright law permits the placement on a server of only a single copy.

The measure we introduce today, The Music Online Competition Act, is carefully crafted to remove these obstacles and thereby promote a legitimate online music marketplace that will benefit the public, the creators of copyrighted works and the technology industry. In particular, our bill makes the following changes:

Updates the "Ephemeral" Recording Exemption: Our bill expands the law that allows broadcasters and webcasters to make a single in-house (or "ephemeral") copy of a transmission program to enable multiple copies so as to accommodate the need for different bit rates (e.g., dial-up, broadband), different formats (e.g., RealPlayer or MediaPlayer), and caching throughout the network to ensure efficient and timely delivery of music to consumers. Our bill extends the ephemeral copyright exemption to encompass not only the transmission program but also the individual songs.

Expands the "In-Store Sampling" Exemption: Under current copyright law, "brick and mortar" music retailers pay no license fees to record CDs on a server so that customers may listen to music samples in the store. Our bill allows retailers to use a central server to